

Blindly walking over the cliff 's edge

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Body

I met a young lady today. Not sure how old she was as she was covered head to toe in hunting gear. I was concerned she might be hunting from the road. Our conversation went well and my fears eased. She then said she had hoped that there would be snow, as that would make her activity easier.

At this point I said the weather this year was very strange. She responded that people say it might be climate ... um ... global warming. Her response gave me the impression she was a novice to the topic. I have tracked climate "chaos" for 30 to 35 years now and I am not a novice.

I used the opportunity to let her know that the consequences of climate change are here now.

The "re-insurance" industry tells us that 300,000 "people" die each year due to climate change, and 26 million fall into poverty as a result due to natural disasters. I also let her know that through my research I have found the number of severe weather events experienced on this planet has increased by five-to six-fold since the 1970s.

At this point her hunting buddies returned and the conversation ended. Now you might wonder how people get pushed into poverty. Think of Puerto Rico and the damage done by that hurricane last year. Very little government help. Think Hurricane Harvie and only one-third of the victims had insurance.

The other day, a person of some stature and respect proclaimed in front of world diplomats at a climate conference in Poland we would see the collapse of our civilization on the horizon. I agreed because I have been saying it for years.

Not sure how the collapse would happen but I believe Syria is a good example of what bad governance and a climate disaster can do. I suspect that crop failures will play a role.

As a farming region, we should realize that bad weather could have negative effects on food supply.

I am writing because I believe the public is not fully aware of the degree to which they are in danger. Thus, they will not even think about Doug Ford's poorly thought out climate plan. Australia set out this plan and, since then, their emissions have risen.

If you understand the danger we face, then you will not vote for a politician who will do nothing about it, or worse, never think about the risks. To me this means a majority of voters are like the lady I met on the side of the road - they are ill informed on the topic and are not aware that they are on the cliff's edge.

Blindly walking over the cliff 's edge

From my perspective the politicians are actually pushing them off the cliff. In addition, Andrew Scheer has no climate plan. And Trudeau ties climate plans and pipelines into one package. Remember bad governance is always dangerous.

Remember the consequences of climate change are not in the distant future but in the here and now. I have been told we have the tools to move forward, and I have watched long enough and heard enough voices that I know we must act now or perish.

Sincerely concerned,

Franklin Taylor

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